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EXAMINER

POKRZYWA, JOSEPH R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

DATE MAILED: 02/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

09/468,257

**Applicant(s)**

HANSON ET AL.

**Examiner**

Joseph R. Pokrzywa

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5, 7-20, 22 and 24-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5, 7-20, 22 and 24-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 11/18/03 has been entered.

### ***Response to Amendment***

2. Applicant's amendment was received on 11/18/03, and has been entered and made of record. Currently, **claims 2-5, 7-20, 22, and 24-33** are pending.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to **claims 2-5, 7-20, 22, and 24-33** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Objections***

4. The objection to **claim 26**, as cited in the Office action dated 6/18/03, is overcome by the changes set forth in the amendment.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. **Claims 5, 7-14, 16-20, 25-30, and 32** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Knowles *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,869,819).

Regarding **claim 5**, Knowles discloses a method for providing automatic communication addressing comprising the steps of receiving at a final addressee destination a document from a sending party from one from the group of a fax and an email communication and creating a hardcopy of the document (column 16, lines 25 through 46, seen in Figs. 6A and 6B), without adding any address information, scanning the document to obtain at least one communication mark (URL encoded bar code symbol 8), if one is present, on the hardcopy (column 8, line 55 through column 9, line 38, and column 17, lines 4 through 31), decoding the communication mark to obtain at least a first communication address for a first communication mode and a second communication address for a second different type of communication mode directly or indirectly from the communication mark (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, and column 17, lines 51 through 61, wherein the first communication mode is the address indicating a WWW information server while the second communication mode is an address indicating a FTP information server; alternatively, see Fig. 16, abstract, and

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column 22, lines 11 through 33, wherein the URL is a first communication mode, and the ZIP Code is a second communication mode), wherein the communication addresses are different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, lines 11 through 23, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), selecting one of the communication addresses and inputting the selected communication address into an address function of a communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 48), and initiating a communication to the communication address through the communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65).

Regarding *claim 7*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches that the communication device comprises at least two different types of communication modes (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, and column 17, lines 51 through 61, wherein the first communication mode is the address indicating a WWW information server while the second communication mode is an address indicating a FTP information server; alternatively, see Fig. 16, abstract, and column 22, lines 11 through 33, wherein the URL is a first communication mode, and the ZIP Code is a second communication mode).

Regarding *claim 8*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches of the step of adding a communication mark to the information prior to initiating the communication (column 16, lines 8 through 46).

Regarding *claims 9 and 10*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches that the communication mark is a bar code (column 9, lines 11 through 48, see Figs. 1 and 1A), and that the communication mark is not visible to the unaided human eye (column 17, lines 44 through 50, wherein the character string length

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of a URL, being the communication mark, is shortened, thereby making the communication mark of the full URL not visible to the unaided human eye).

Regarding *claim 11*, Knowles discloses a method for providing automatic communication addressing comprising the steps of receiving a document from one from the group of a fax and an email communication and creating a hardcopy of the document at a final addressee destination (column 16, lines 25 through 46, seen in Figs. 6A and 6B), without adding any information, scanning the document to obtain at least one communication mark (URL encoded bar code symbol 8), if one is present, on the hardcopy (column 8, line 55 through column 9, line 38, and column 17, lines 4 through 31), decoding the communication mark to obtain at least one Internet address from the communication mark that is different from the final addressee destination (column 9, lines 11 through 23, column 11, line 64 through column 12, line 33, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), automatically accessing a site for the Internet address and retrieving at least one communication address (column 9, lines 11 through 65), inputting the communication address into an address function of a communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65), and initiating a communication of the information to the communication address through the communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65), wherein the communication mark is a storage address to a location where an external communication address is stored (column 9, line 66 through column 10, line 20, and column 10, line 53 through column 11, line 4).

Regarding *claim 12*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 11, and further teaches of a step of accessing the storage address over a network to obtain the communication address (column 18, lines 1 through 20).

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Regarding *claim 13*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 11, and further teaches of a step of accessing a URL address wherein the communication device is located (column 9, lines 11 through 65).

Regarding *claim 14*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches that the communication device is a voice communication device (column 8, lines 27 through 47, whereby the hypermedia documents in the web site includes audio information).

Regarding *claim 16*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches of the step of storing the address obtained directly or indirectly from the communication mark (column 9, lines 27 through 38).

Regarding *claim 17*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches of the step of determining a name of an addressee corresponding to the obtained address (column 14, lines 8 through 46), and displaying the addressee name to a user (see Figs. 6A and 6B).

Regarding *claim 18*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches of the step of adding a new communication mark to the information includes directly or indirectly a new address to be obtained relative to the obtained at least one address (see Figs. 6A and 6B, column 14, lines 8 through 56, and column 17, lines 51 through 61).

Regarding *claim 19*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches of the step of adding a communication mark to the information that deletes an address or a reference to an address from the located communication mark (column 15, line 6 through column 16, line 24, wherein the user can select what

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information and the display format of the printed information file, therein inherently including adding a communication mark to the information that deletes an address or a reference to an address from the located communication mark; also in column 17, lines 44 through 50, the character string length of the URLs can be shortened, thus deleting a reference to an address).

Regarding *claim 20*, Knowles discloses a system for providing automatic communication addressing comprising logic for locating a non-text/image communication mark on a medium containing information and which has been sent to a final addressee destination from a sending party (column 16, lines 25 through 46, seen in Figs. 6A and 6B), wherein the communication mark includes a first communication address for a first communication mode, and second communication address for a second different type of communication mode (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, and column 17, lines 51 through 61, wherein the first communication mode is the address indicating a WWW information server while the second communication mode is an address indicating a FTP information server; alternatively, see Fig. 16, abstract, and column 22, lines 11 through 33, wherein the URL is a first communication mode, and the ZIP Code is a second communication mode), and wherein the first communication address and the second communication address are different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, lines 11 through 23, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), logic for obtaining at least one address directly or indirectly from the communication mark (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, and column 17, lines 51 through 61), logic for inputting the address into an address function of a communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 48), and logic for initiating a communication of the



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information to the address through the communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65).

Regarding *claim 25*, Knowles discloses a program product for providing automatic communication addressing, comprising machine-readable program code for causing a machine to perform the following method (column 8, line 27 through column 9, line 48), comprising receiving at a final addressee destination a document from a sending party from one from the group of a fax and an email communication and creating a hardcopy of the document (column 16, lines 25 through 46, seen in Figs. 6A and 6B), without adding any address information, scanning the document to obtain at least one communication mark (URL encoded bar code symbol 8), if one is present, on the hardcopy (column 8, line 55 through column 9, line 38, and column 17, lines 4 through 31), decoding the communication mark to obtain at least a first communication address for a first communication mode and a second communication address for a second different type of communication mode directly or indirectly from the communication mark (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, and column 17, lines 51 through 61, wherein the first communication mode is the address indicating a WWW information server while the second communication mode is an address indicating a FTP information server; alternatively, see Fig. 16, abstract, and column 22, lines 11 through 33, wherein the URL is a first communication mode, and the ZIP Code is a second communication mode), wherein the communication addresses are different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, lines 11 through 23, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), selecting one of the communication addresses and inputting the selected communication address into an address function of a communication device (column 9, lines 11 through

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48), and initiating a communication to the communication address through the communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65).

Regarding *claim 26*, Knowles discloses a program product for providing automatic communication addressing, comprising machine-readable program code for causing a machine to perform the following method (column 8, line 27 through column 9, line 48), comprising receiving at a final addressee destination a document from a sending party from one from the group of a fax and an email communication and creating a hardcopy of the document (column 16, lines 25 through 46, seen in Figs. 6A and 6B), without adding any information, scanning the document to obtain at least one communication mark (URL encoded bar code symbol 8), if one is present, on the hardcopy (column 8, line 55 through column 9, line 38, and column 17, lines 4 through 31), decoding the communication mark to obtain at least one Internet address from the communication mark (column 9, lines 11 through 23, column 11, line 64 through column 12, line 33, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), automatically accessing a site for the Internet address and retrieving at least one communication address (column 9, lines 11 through 65), wherein the at least one address is different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, line 66 through column 10, line 20, and column 10, line 53 through column 11, line 4), inputting the communication address into an address function of a communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65), and initiating a communication of the information to the communication address through the communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65).

Regarding *claim 27*, Knowles discloses a system for providing automatic communication addressing comprising logic for receiving at a final addressee destination

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a document from a sending party from one from the group of a fax and an email communication and creating a hardcopy of the document (column 16, lines 25 through 46, seen in Figs. 6A and 6B), logic for, without adding any address information, scanning the document to obtain at least one communication mark (URL encoded bar code symbol 8), if one is present, on the hardcopy (column 8, line 55 through column 9, line 38, and column 17, lines 4 through 31), logic for decoding the communication mark to obtain at least a first communication address for a first communication mode and a second communication address for a second different type of communication mode directly or indirectly from the communication mark (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, and column 17, lines 51 through 61, wherein the first communication mode is the address indicating a WWW information server while the second communication mode is an address indicating a FTP information server; alternatively, see Fig. 16, abstract, and column 22, lines 11 through 33, wherein the URL is a first communication mode, and the ZIP Code is a second communication mode), wherein the communication addresses are different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, lines 11 through 23, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), logic for selecting one of the communication addresses and inputting the selected communication address into an address function of a communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 48), and logic for initiating a communication to the communication address through the communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65).

Regarding *claim 28*, Knowles discloses a system for providing automatic communication addressing, comprising logic for receiving at a final addressee destination a document from a sending party from one from the group of a fax and an email

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communication and creating a hardcopy of the document (column 16, lines 25 through 46, seen in Figs. 6A and 6B), logic for, without adding any information, scanning the document to obtain at least one communication mark (URL encoded bar code symbol 8), if one is present, on the hardcopy (column 8, line 55 through column 9, line 38, and column 17, lines 4 through 31), logic for decoding the communication mark to obtain at least one Internet address from the communication mark (column 9, lines 11 through 23, column 11, line 64 through column 12, line 33, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), logic for automatically accessing a site for the Internet address and retrieving at least one communication address (column 9, lines 11 through 65), wherein the at least one address is different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, line 66 through column 10, line 20, and column 10, line 53 through column 11, line 4), logic for inputting the communication address into an address function of a communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65), and logic for initiating a communication of the information to the communication address through the communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65).

Regarding *claim 29*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches that the communication device is a facsimile (column 4, lines 34 through 42, and column 16, lines 25 through 46), the document is a fax (column 16, lines 25 through 46), and wherein the communication addresses at least include a communication address of the sending party (column 15, line 50 through column 16, line 46).

Regarding *claim 30*, Knowles discloses the method discussed above in claim 5, and further teaches that the communication mark is a non-text/image communication

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mark (column 9, line 66 through column 10, line 20, and column 17, lines 16 through 31, whereby the communication mark is a bar code).

Regarding **claim 32**, Knowles discloses the system discussed above in claim 20, and further teaches of obtaining the at least one Internet address directly from the communication mark (column 9, lines 11 through 65).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. **Claims 2-4, 15, 22, 24, 31, and 33** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knowles *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,869,819).

Regarding **claim 2**, Knowles discloses the method discussed below in claim 15, and further teaches that the locating step comprises scanning the medium (column 9, lines 11 through 65, and column 13, lines 1 through 16).

Regarding **claim 3**, Knowles discloses the method discussed below in claim 15, and further teaches that the locating step comprises the step of locating the communication mark at a predetermined location on the medium (column 14, lines 8 through 56, and column 16, lines 25 through 67).

Regarding **claim 4**, Knowles discloses the method discussed below in claim 15, and further teaches that the locating step comprises a locating an address relative to a

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predetermined mark on the medium (column 8, line 55 through column 9, line 38, and column 17, lines 4 through 31).

Regarding *claim 15*, Knowles discloses a method for providing automatic communication addressing comprising the steps of locating a communication mark, if one is present, on a medium containing information at a final addressee destination sent from a sending party (column 16, lines 25 through 46, seen in Figs. 6A and 6B), obtaining at least one communication address directly or indirectly from the communication mark (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, and column 17, lines 51 through 61), the at least one communication address being different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, lines 11 through 23, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), inputting the communication address into an address function of a communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65), and initiating a communication of the information to the communication address through the communications device (column 9, lines 11 through 48), wherein the communication mark includes a first communication address for a first communication mode, and a second communication address for a second different type of communication mode (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, wherein the first communication mode is the address indicated by the URL of 38A, while the second, different communication mode is indicated by the URL of 39A), and wherein the first communication address and the second communication address are different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, lines 11 through 23, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), and further comprising the step of sending the second communication address (URL 39A) for the second different

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type of communication mode and the information to the communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65, and column 14, lines 8 through 56).

However, Knowles does not specifically teach of determining if the communication mode for the first communication address is available at the communication device, and subsequently, when it is determined that the communication mode for the first communication address is not available at the communication device, sending the second communication address for the second different type of communication mode and the information to the communication device. Contrarily, Knowles does teach that surfing web sites is prone to errors, and a message can be received which states that the Domain Name of the Web-site sought after cannot be found, as read in column 2, lines 5 through 10, thus being unavailable. Further, Knowles teaches of “automatically surfing” the web sites listed in the URL encoded bar code symbols, as read in column 2, line 61 through column 3, line 3. Plus, as seen in Fig. 6B, first and second URLs are printed on the substrate representing a first communication mode 38 and a second, different communication mode 39. Thus, by “automatically surfing” the different sites on the sheet, the system would inherently select the second address when the first address is available or unavailable. Also, as read in column 18, lines 1 through 20, and seen in Fig. 9, a primary portion and a auxiliary portion of a URL can be printed on respective first and second bar code symbols. With this, the system would inherently produce an error message if the second bar code symbol, having only the auxiliary portion of a URL, is selected, since the home page of the web site cannot be found. Thus, to prevent the drawback of browsing that is mentioned above in each of these cases, since the system automatically surfs the sites listed on a sheet, it would have

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been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the function of sending the second communication address for the second different type of communication mode and the information to the communication device *when it is determined that the communication mode for the first communication address is not available at the communication device*. By doing this, the system of Knowles would become more efficient, since the time lost from receiving the error would be alleviated, being a problem that Knowles mentions and desires to overcome by virtue of the invention.

Regarding **claim 22**, Knowles discloses a system for providing automatic communication addressing comprising logic for locating a communication mark, if one is present, on a medium containing information at a final addressee destination sent from a sending party (column 16, lines 25 through 46, seen in Figs. 6A and 6B), logic for obtaining at least one communication address directly or indirectly from the communication mark (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, and column 17, lines 51 through 61), the at least one communication address being different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, lines 11 through 23, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), logic for inputting the communication address into an address function of a communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65), and logic for initiating a communication of the information to the communication address through the communications device (column 9, lines 11 through 48), wherein the communication mark includes a first communication address for a first communication mode, and a second communication address for a second different type of communication mode (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, wherein the first communication mode is the



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address indicated by the URL of 38A, while the second, different communication mode is indicated by the URL of 39A), and wherein the first communication address and the second communication address are different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, lines 11 through 23, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), and further comprising logic for sending the second communication address (URL 39A) for the second different type of communication mode and the information to the communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65, and column 14, lines 8 through 56).

However, Knowles does not specifically teach of logic for determining if the communication mode for the first communication address is available at the communication device, and subsequently, logic for, when it is determined that the communication mode for the first communication address is not available at the communication device, sending the second communication address for the second different type of communication mode and the information to the communication device. Contrarily, Knowles does teach that surfing web sites is prone to errors, and a message can be received which states that the Domain Name of the Web-site sought after cannot be found, as read in column 2, lines 5 through 10, thus being unavailable. Further, Knowles teaches of “automatically surfing” the web sites listed in the URL encoded bar code symbols, as read in column 2, line 61 through column 3, line 3. Plus, as seen in Fig. 6B, first and second URLs are printed on the substrate representing a first communication mode 38 and a second, different communication mode 39. Thus, by “automatically surfing” the different sites on the sheet, the system would inherently select the second address when the first address is available or unavailable. Also, as read in column 18, lines 1 through 20, and seen in Fig. 9, a primary portion and a auxiliary portion of a URL

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can be printed on respective first and second bar code symbols. With this, the system would inherently produce an error message if the second bar code symbol, having only the auxiliary portion of a URL, is selected, since the home page of the web site cannot be found. Thus, to prevent the drawback of browsing that is mentioned above in each of these cases, since the system automatically surfs the sites listed on a sheet, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the function of sending the second communication address for the second different type of communication mode and the information to the communication device *when it is determined that the communication mode for the first communication address is not available at the communication device*. By doing this, the system of Knowles would become more efficient, since the time lost from receiving the error would be alleviated, being a problem that Knowles mentions and desires to overcome by virtue of the invention.

Regarding *claim 24*, Knowles discloses a program product including machine readable program code for causing a machine to perform the following method steps for providing automatic communication addressing (column 8, line 27 through column 9, line 48), the method comprising locating a communication mark, if one is present, on a medium containing information at a final addressee destination sent from a sending party (column 16, lines 25 through 46, seen in Figs. 6A and 6B), obtaining at least one communication address directly or indirectly from the communication mark (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, and column 17, lines 51 through 61), the at least one communication address being different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, lines 11 through 23, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), inputting the

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communication address into an address function of a communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65), and initiating a communication of the information to the communication address through the communications device (column 9, lines 11 through 48), wherein the communication mark includes a first communication address for a first communication mode, and a second communication address for a second different type of communication mode (see Fig. 6B, column 14, lines 27 through 56, wherein the first communication mode is the address indicated by the URL of 38A, while the second, different communication mode is indicated by the URL of 39A), and wherein the first communication address and the second communication address are different from that of the final addressee destination (column 9, lines 11 through 23, and column 15, lines 6 through 40), and further comprising the step of sending the second communication address (URL 39A) for the second different type of communication mode and the information to the communication device (column 9, lines 11 through 65, and column 14, lines 8 through 56).

However, Knowles does not specifically teach of determining if the communication mode for the first communication address is available at the communication device, and subsequently, when it is determined that the communication mode for the first communication address is not available at the communication device, sending the second communication address for the second different type of communication mode and the information to the communication device. Contrarily, Knowles does teach that surfing web sites is prone to errors, and a message can be received which states that the Domain Name of the Web-site sought after cannot be found, as read in column 2, lines 5 through 10, thus being unavailable. Further, Knowles

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teaches of “automatically surfing” the web sites listed in the URL encoded bar code symbols, as read in column 2, line 61 through column 3, line 3. Plus, as seen in Fig. 6B, first and second URLs are printed on the substrate representing a first communication mode 38 and a second, different communication mode 39. Thus, by “automatically surfing” the different sites on the sheet, the system would inherently select the second address when the first address is available or unavailable. Also, as read in column 18, lines 1 through 20, and seen in Fig. 9, a primary portion and a auxiliary portion of a URL can be printed on respective first and second bar code symbols. With this, the system would inherently produce an error message if the second bar code symbol, having only the auxiliary portion of a URL, is selected, since the home page of the web site cannot be found. Thus, to prevent the drawback of browsing that is mentioned above in each of these cases, since the system automatically surfs the sites listed on a sheet, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the function of sending the second communication address for the second different type of communication mode and the information to the communication device *when it is determined that the communication mode for the first communication address is not available at the communication device*. By doing this, the system of Knowles would become more efficient, since the time lost from receiving the error would be alleviated, being a problem that Knowles mentions and desires to overcome by virtue of the invention.

Regarding *claims 31 and 33*, Knowles discloses the method and program product discussed above in claims 15 and 24, respectively, and further teaches of obtaining the at

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least one Internet address directly from the communication mark (column 9, lines 11 through 65).

***Citation of Pertinent Prior Art***

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

**Reber *et al.*** (U.S. Patent Number 6,081,827) discloses a network navigation system using a printed mail piece having a bar code identifying a particular URL, which is subsequently scanned, to access a web site.

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*Conclusion*

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (703) 305-0146. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



Joseph R. Pokrzywa  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2622

jrp